

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 1

11/03/2024

Drilling

We started drilling on Friday 8th March in Norfolk. The land was ploughed and drilled, and the seed went in well.



With the warmer week forecast its looking like period 3 in Norfolk will be due Friday 15th March and period 4 the first drillings on the silt around Tuesday 19th March, obviously things are still very wet in places so I will be catching up with those due to drill to discuss and look at field suitability, so there may be last minute changes to field order going forward.

Amalfi seed should be in the process of being delivered. Realm and Trophee seed to be processed for delivery this week.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 2

19/03/2024

Drilling

We continued drilling the Boston in Norfolk on the 14th and 16th March going into reasonable seedbeds. Unfortunately, the weather window wasn't long enough to get the Tomahawk in. With this being a quick maturing variety, we will now plan to drill this 25/26th March so that it slots in better with the harvesting plan.

The first Amalfi drillings on the silt, will now look likely to be also around the 26th March period 4 on the drill programme. but we wont drill this until we know we have the Tomahawk drilled in Norfolk as this could cause issues at harvest time. Hopefully the slight delay will help some of the fields to dry a bit more. I do expect some last-minute field changes and the moving of seed but until we get closer to drilling, I won't know what these will be. As always, I will be discussing with members the best course of action.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 3

25/03/2024

Drilling

Well, some dry weather finally, let's hope it continues! We are drilling the Tomahawk period 3 in Norfolk today and tomorrow this will conclude the Norfolk drillings.

The silts have dried out well over the last few days. The first Amalfi drillings on the silt are due to start tomorrow 26th March period 4 on the drill programme. with subsequent periods as follows

Period 5 Saturday 30th March

Period 6 Tuesday 2nd April

Period 7 around Friday 5th Saturday 6th April

As seems the norm the forecast doesn't seem that great but as always, I will be communicating with those due to drill to come up with the best plan.

Amalfi seed should have or will all be delivered in the next couple of days. Realm being despatched this week and the Trophee has started landing on Farm.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 4

03/04/2024

Drilling

The showery weather over the last week has proved difficult to continue to drill to the programme with some fields and areas fairing better than others. With some staff availability issues over the Easter weekend adding to the difficulties.

We have started this week with several members drilling into good seed beds whereas others are unable to drill due to field conditions. Field visits and phone calls have kept the drilling going. We have drilled all the fields that we can in period 6 with some fields from period 7 being drilled to make up for fields that are still not fit enough to drill.

The forecast is not great for the next few days, but subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 8 Saturday 6th April

Period 9 Tuesday 9th April

Period 10 around Thursday 11th Friday 12th April

First drillings in Norfolk emerging and we are already seeing differences in the variety trials there.

Drilling is proving tricky and it's important that we continue to communicate and discuss drilling. To date I am happy that what we have drilled has gone in well and it's my intention to continue not to drill into poor seed beds.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 5

09/04/2024

Drilling

With the drier weather we have managed to go back to most of the fields we had to leave and get them drilled. Seed has gone in well. We are drilling period 9 today and tomorrow. We are currently only a couple of days behind the programme, we have approx. 440ha drilled just shy of 20% of the programme. With warmer weather forecast periods will come quicker.

Subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

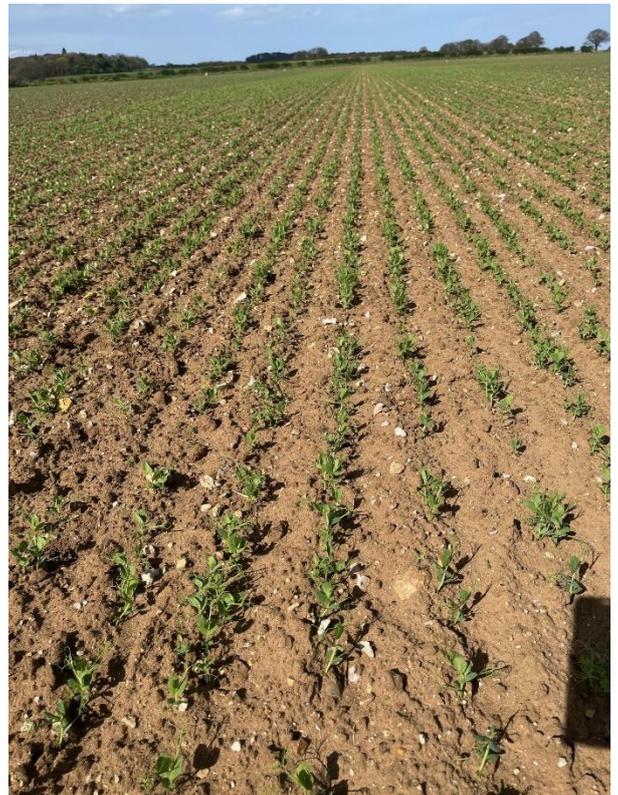
Period 10 Thursday 11th April

Period 11 Saturday 13th April

Period 12 Monday 15th April

Period 13 currently Thursday 18th April

First drillings in Norfolk moving on well the variety trials already showing big differences, with a couple of promising varieties. Emerged Seed population looking good too in the main fields.



As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss. Seed availability still causing issues so may be slight changes to varieties from the original programme. As soon as things settle, I will send out an updated programme.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 6

16/04/2024

Drilling

With the warmer weather of last week drilling has moved on at a pace and we are now on programme with drilling. The land had dried out very quickly with quite a hard solid crust on some fields which meant an extra pass in front of the drills. Seed has continued to go in well and into good moisture. Some fields have been rolled and this needs to be looked at on a field-by-field basis and with the weather forecast in mind. With a cooler week ahead drill periods are extending out

Subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 13 Friday 19th April

Period 14 Monday 22nd April

Period 15 Thursday 25th April

First drillings in Norfolk are now big enough to be rolled. Some of the earlier silt fields will need to be rolled once the crop is big enough needs to be between 2 to 4 inches and rolled slowly avoiding sharp turns with the rolls, this is to aid in moisture retention and leaving a level smooth surface for the viners, but I will advise to when this will need to be done. Land is drying out now and cultivating later programme fields should be starting to happen to retain moisture.

Oasis seed currently being delivered. The remainder of the Realm should be on farm early next week. I hope to have all the seed confirmed for delivery this week and once this is done, I will issue the final drill programme.

As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 7

23/04/2024

Drilling

Well, what a difference a week makes. With some frosty mornings and cold days drilling has slowed up considerably from last weeks warm weather. The light showers are not impacting on drilling and are helping with drilled crops especially in Norfolk. We are drilling period 14 today which is one day behind the programme. we continue to drill into good moist seed beds.

Subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 15 Saturday 27th April

Period 16 Tuesday 30th April

Period 17 Thursday 2nd May

Growing Crop

Most fields in Norfolk have now been rolled any remaining fields will be rolled as soon as the weather warms up. Will look at some earlier drilled fields on the silt when the weather warms up, but most won't require rolling post emergence. Rolling post drilling currently needs to be looked at and discussed on a field-by-field basis but no doubt it will become the norm as seed beds dry

out. Am starting to see pigeons on emerged fields but yet no major concerns, equipment needs to be regularly moved and checked.

I have issued delivery addresses for the last of the seed, Naches and Butana so expect to see this arriving on farm in the next couple of weeks. Just waiting on seed lot confirmation on the Naches as soon as I have this, I will issue the final drill programme.

As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss.

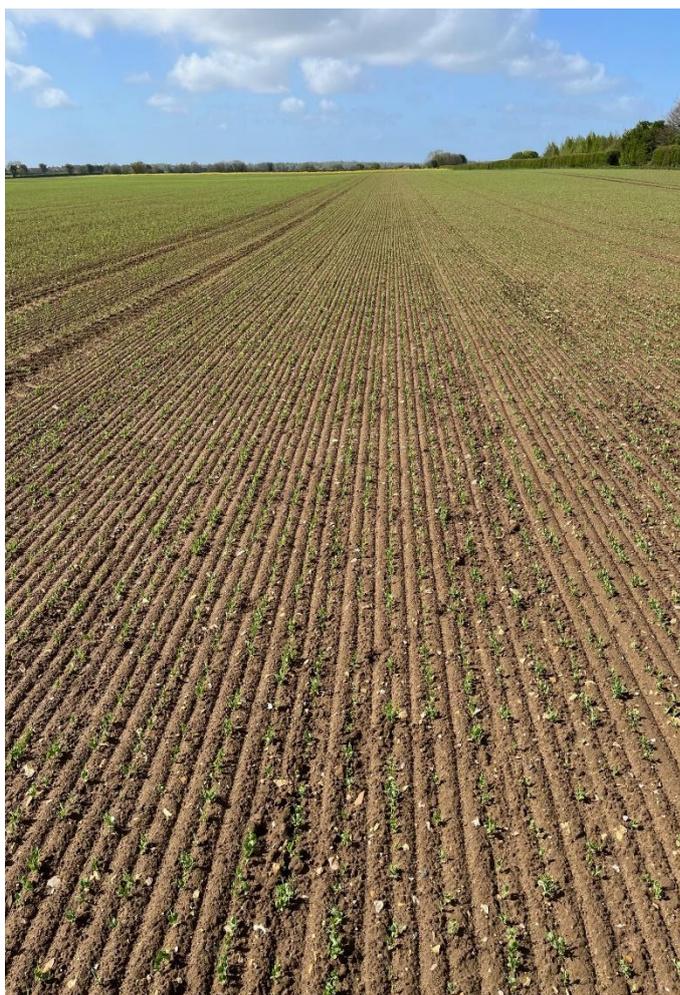
Below are some shots of emerged crop, so far looking good with the increased seed rates. We are seeing some encouraging differences in the varieties we are growing in Norfolk whether this will carry on through to harvest we will see.

Boston in Norfolk first two pictures drilled 16/03/24 last picture 14/03/24.



Tomahawk in Norfolk drilled 25/03/24.





Idalgo in Norfolk drilled 09/03/24.



Amalfi drilled in Cambs 22/03/24.



Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 8

30/04/2024

Drilling

Drillings went to plan last week with drillings due for Saturday being drilled on Friday to avoid and minimise the impact of the rain, with between 16-28.5mm across our range it proved the right thing to do. Temps have now increased and with over 8.5 heat units a day forecast for the next 10 days drilling will be coming thick and fast. Showery weather forecasted also, but hopefully this will not affect drilling too much. Rolling post drilling again to be looked at on a field-by-field basis.

Subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 16 Tuesday 30th April

Period 17 Thursday 2nd May

Period 18 Saturday 4th May

Period 19 Monday 6th May

Period 20 Tuesday 7th May

Period 21 Thursday 9th May

As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss.

Growing Crop

Nothing much grew with last weeks cold temps but now the weather is warming up we should see some good growth. Fields that require rolling post emergence should be done as soon as conditions allow, crop needs to be between 2-4 inches tall, slow roll avoiding sharp turns. This is more to push any clod and level the seed bed for harvest rather than conserve moisture at this stage.

Pigeons remain the focus on emerging crop. Keep up the patrols and try and visit fields at different times. Moving equipment around after a couple of days works well and using a multi-pronged attack. Don't think that if you have put a gas gun or kite out that's it, they will quickly get used to it.

No Aphids seen as yet but with temps warming up they may start to appear. Some weevil damage on crops but nothing that will affect the crop. Patches of weed seedlings appearing in early drilled crops but not proving an issue.

Trials in Norfolk



Out of the 5 small variety trials we have one that is very poor with 3 looking promising.

All three of the commercial varieties grown in Norfolk looking good with Boston the standout at this stage. With a good amount of rain here to date crops progressing well.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 9

07/05/2024

Drilling

Drillings mostly went to plan last week with just a delay after the rain on Friday. With warm dry weather forecast rolling post drilling should now be the norm. With temperatures rising as the week goes on periods will start to come together with 5 due in the next 7 days. Crops should emerge quickly so it's important to be close up with rolling and pre-emergence applications to avoid crop damage.

Subsequent drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 20 Wednesday 8th May

Period 21 Friday 10th May

Period 22 Saturday 11th May

Period 23 Monday 13th May

Period 24 Wednesday 15th May

Period 25 Thursday 16th May

As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss.

We have drilled 46% of the programme and are only 1 day behind the drilling programme. With Trophee and Geneva being drilled simultaneously this next week a lot of Hectares will be drilled.

Growing Crop

Crop will be growing fast as temperature increase. I will be visiting early drilled fields to decide if they will need rolling before the crop gets too big. Pest pressure may increase also, so keep an eye out and report to me if any seen. Pigeons as always should be the main focus. Growers that are doing regular patrols and have varied deterrents out are doing a good job in keeping them off. Keep up the patrols and pressure. As once they get established, they are much harder to move off.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 11

21/05/2024

Drilling

With the significant rain last Thursday followed by overnight mist the land did not dry out that quickly over the weekend which delayed drilling. With a lot more rain forecast mid-week onwards we have drilled periods 26,27 and 28 over the last two days. This puts us in the best possible position to manage more rain fall and the potential subsequent delays.

As it stands the next drill periods are planned as follows.

Period 29 Friday 24th May

Period 30 Sunday 26th May

Period 31 Monday 27th May

Period 32 Wednesday 29th May

Period 33 Thursday 30th May

As always, I will be in touch closer to drilling to discuss.

Growing Crop

I am seeing a lot of Pea and Bean weevil damage more than the previous two years. It's imperative this is identified early and treated as detailed in the last bulletin. As high populations can strip the leaves of emerging crop. Pea moth has been seen and found in Norfolk and Lincolnshire. As yet I have not seen any aphids but expect them to be about. Pigeons as always proving a difficult problem to solve, with the only effective way is to keep the patrols up and mix up the bird scarers with moving every couple of days so the pigeons don't become used to them. I have seen pigeons feeding directly under a scarer. Norfolk crops on the whole still looking promising and all have flowers present with some nearing full flower in the next few days. With the wet weather forecast Amistar should be added to the full flower insecticide spray. Current predictions are for us to start harvest around 14th June with a steady progression as crops come in.

Does anyone have any hessian sacks as we require some for the samplers as the ones we have, have finally given up the ghost and they are ideal for sampling. If not if you can point in the right direction where I can find some.

Norfolk crops.

Idalgo

Boston





Trials



Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 13

04/06/2024

Drilling

As I thought the last weeks drilling has been hampered with rain and we have had to move fields around as rainfall was very localised. We should be finished drilling on the Marsh today with Sandringham drilling tomorrow and plan to finish Thursday 6th June a week later than programmed. It's likely we will be the first pea group to finish drilling this season with some still only having drilled less than 70%.

Growing Crop

With the continued wet weather of the last week and colder nighttime temps, crops have slowed in maturity with particularly Amalfi really not liking this weather. We are seeing signs of mildew in the bottom of the crops, Revus (Mandipropamid 14-day HI) will help control this. Where petals have stuck to the leaves we have seen some botrytis, Amistar (Azoxystrobin 14-day HI) will help control this. I suggest a mix of Manganese, Magnesium, Zinc and Phosphite, or an all-in-one trace element spray be applied to the growing crop, this will help the crop and hopefully help control any mildew at low levels. Aphids have been seen but not in significant numbers as well as Pea Moth, with the recent colder wet weather this has helped keep numbers low. Anything we can do to help the crop reach its full potential should be done.

With the land and crop being wet and botrytis being seen, I feel it's still important to continue to add Amistar to the full flower insecticide spray. Once the last sprays have been completed, please send me your field application record **WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HARVEST YOUR CROP IF WE DO NOT HAVE THESE.**

Please ensure gateways dykes and verges are cut prior to our arrival at harvest time, it really does help make entering and exiting the fields as safe as possible. Harvest is looking like commencing on the weekend of the 15th/16th June.

Allen Giles

HMC Peas 2024 Bulletin 17

30/07/2024

Growing Crop

Remaining crops should have had or will get the full flower spray in the next few days. With the dryer warmer weather disease pressure has reduced. We are seeing more moth activity in the crops with both pea and silver Y being seen. We have had a few fields where we have seen silver y caterpillar in the crop at sampling and harvest time. If this is found an application of hallmark will sort these out and with a 0 HI is very effective. Remaining crops with the odd exception are looking good so we should have a good run to the end of the season.

Harvest

We have been harvesting flat out now for the last three weeks. With the very odd exception crop yields have been very good with nearly double the 8-year average. With all pea groups experiencing high yields there has been limited extra tonnage available so on the most part we have been kept around our daily contracted tonnage. Amalfi was 6 days later than usual Realm 4 days and Trophée about 3, coupled with the higher yields and crops catching each other up we have bypassed nearly all the Realm as we were concentrating on the Petits. We have a couple of days left to finish all the petits and will update the figures once I have them all in. Remaining crops look to follow the trend of higher than normal yields and are following on as they should. So at this stage I think it may be inevitable that we may be bypassing more crop as its important we keep on the TR.

We are sampling the crops that we have bypassed so we can see if we have any virus present and then look at which fields would be potentially better to be saved for seed. We are looking to combine all the bypass crop. So, I am looking for any help and advice in this as we will need it harvesting and storing,

HMC do own a special vining pea header that fits a class combine. So get in touch if you think you can help.

Please make sure that gateways are cut and that field records keep coming in. Just a reminder to remember when visiting fields please wear Hi Viz and make yourself known to the supervisor or another HMC member of staff. Can I suggest going to the workshop/canteen on entering the field.

Allen Giles